

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 335**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Mullin**

February 7, 2003

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An act to amend Section 69997 of the Education Code, relating to scholarships.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 335, as introduced, Mullin. Scholarships: Governor's Scholars Program.

Existing law establishes the Governor's Scholars Program, under which a pupil may receive a scholarship for attaining a score on the reading and mathematics portions of the nationally normed statewide achievement test that places the pupil in the top 5% of test takers in his or her grade level statewide or in the top 10% of test takers in his or her grade level in the comprehensive public high school attended by the pupil.

This bill would provide that pupils in public alternative schools, as defined, are also eligible to receive scholarships for being in the top 10% of test takers in the school they attend.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 69997 of the Education Code is  
2 amended to read:  
3 69997. (a) The Governor's Scholars Program is hereby  
4 established. This program shall provide a scholarship of one

1 thousand dollars (\$1,000) to each public high school pupil who, on  
2 or after January 1, 2000, demonstrates high academic achievement  
3 on the achievement test authorized by Section 60640. Pupils  
4 receiving a scholarship pursuant to this section shall be known as  
5 “Governor’s Scholars.”

6 (b) Until the State Board of Education determines that the  
7 English language arts and mathematics portions of the statewide  
8 pupil achievement test authorized by Section 60640 have been  
9 aligned with the California academic content standards, and the  
10 standards aligned test is both valid and reliable for high stakes  
11 purposes, a pupil shall earn a scholarship pursuant to this section  
12 by satisfying either of the following criteria:

13 (1) Attaining a combined score on the reading and mathematics  
14 portions of the nationally normed achievement test adopted by the  
15 State Board of Education pursuant to Section 60642 that places  
16 him or her in the top 5 percent of test takers in his or her grade level  
17 statewide. A pupil attending any California public school,  
18 including those specified in subdivision (g) of Section 52052, is  
19 eligible to receive an award pursuant to this paragraph.

20 (2) Attaining a combined score on the nationally normed  
21 reading and mathematics portions of the achievement test adopted  
22 by the State Board of Education pursuant to Section 60642 that  
23 places him or her in the top 10 percent of test takers in his or her  
24 grade level in the comprehensive public high school *or the public*  
25 *alternative school, as defined in Section 58500*, attended by that  
26 pupil. When calculating the top 10 percent, the result shall be  
27 rounded to the nearest whole integer for the purpose of  
28 determining the number of awards in any high school. If this  
29 calculation results in a number of pupils less than one in any high  
30 school, there shall be one award at that school.

31 (c) Pupils earning an award pursuant to subdivision (b) may  
32 receive only one award in any given year. However, a pupil may  
33 earn a lifetime maximum of three awards by meeting the  
34 requirements of this section in each of grades 9, 10, and 11.

35 (d) Once the State Board of Education has determined that the  
36 English language arts and mathematics portions of the statewide  
37 pupil achievement test authorized by Section 60640 have been  
38 aligned with the California academic content standards, and the  
39 standards aligned test is both valid and reliable for high stakes

1 purposes, that test shall be used as the basis for the award of  
2 scholarships pursuant to subdivision (a).

3 (e) (1) For the purposes of this section, a “comprehensive high  
4 school” includes both of the following:

5 (A) The California Schools for the Deaf established pursuant  
6 to Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 59000) of Part 32.

7 (B) The California School for the Blind established pursuant to  
8 Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 59100) of Part 32.

9 (2) A pupil attending the California Schools for the Deaf or the  
10 California School for the Blind who met the criteria for an award  
11 pursuant to this section for tests taken in ~~year~~ 2000 shall receive  
12 an award for that year.

